

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ball screw device comprising:

a nut ~~that having a plurality of first thread grooves~~ [[is]] formed on an inner surface thereof;

a screw shaft ~~that having a plurality of second thread grooves~~ [[is]] formed on an outer surface thereof;

a plural ~~plurality number~~ of balls ~~configured to be~~ arranged between the first thread grooves and the second thread grooves; and

a deflector built into the nut to provide a ball-return path which returns the balls so as to circulate endlessly, wherein the deflector comprises a deflector piece which defines a top plate of the ball-return path and a guide member which defines sidewalls of the ball-return path,

wherein, the deflector piece is shaped as an arch which comprises a pair of prop portions and an intermediate portion; the prop portions are inserted into a through hole formed into the nut; and a concavity as the top plate of the ball-return path is formed on an inner surface of the intermediate portion, wherein the arch extends a width of approximately two second thread grooves.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Original): A ball screw device according to claim 2, wherein the guide member is shaped so that its cross section is an U-shaped having a pair of side portions as the sidewalls of the ball-return path, which sandwich the intermediate portion of the deflector piece.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A ball screw device according to claim 1, wherein a plural number of [[the]] deflectors are built into the nut at an equal interval in circumferential direction.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A ball screw device according to claim 1, wherein the ball screw device further comprises a plural number of separators which ~~is~~ are arranged between each ball.

Claim 6 (Original): A ball screw device according to claim 1, wherein the ball screw device further comprises a nut housing that the nut is inserted therein, and an elastic member which is provided on an outer surface of the guide member; and the elastic member is engaged with an inner surface of the nut housing to fix the guide member to the nut.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): A manufacturing method of a ball screw device which comprises a nut, a screw shaft, a plural number of balls, and a deflector which comprises a deflector piece and a guide member, the manufacturing method comprising:

attaching the deflector piece to the nut;

grinding an inner surface of the nut together with an inner surface of the deflector piece;

attaching the guide member to the nut; and

assembling the balls and the screw shaft to the nut.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A manufacturing method of a ball screw device which comprises a nut, a screw shaft, a plural number of balls, and a deflector which comprises a deflector piece and a guide member, the manufacturing method comprising:

attaching the deflector piece to the nut;

grinding an inner surface of the nut together with an inner surface of the deflector piece;

detaching the deflector piece from the nut;

assembling the balls and the screw shaft to the nut; and

attaching the deflector piece and the guide member to the nut.